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Title: Need to set up a Nurses' Welfare Board in the country.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMATHITTA): I take this opportunity to request the Government to kindly set up a Nurses Welfare Board in the country. Even though the nurses are rendering meritorious service in the Medicare sector of our country, they are the most vulnerable community in terms of salary and working conditions. Nurses are vulnerable to work-induced diseases due to their proximity to the patients suffering from communicable diseases. They are not protected by proper immunity measures against such diseases. Nurses are not getting medical/sickness benefits in case of work-induced diseases. Rather, they have to bear all the expenses regarding treatment. At present there is no mechanism to ensure the welfare of nurses in the country especially working in the private sector. Setting up of a Nurses Welfare Board will provide medicare facilities, pension and other benefits to the nurses in our country.